



ONENESS

Buddhist Church of Florin



October 2025

Volume 10

Harvest and the Heart of "Itadakimasu"



Autumn is the harvest season. In Japan, many foods remind us of this time: chestnuts, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, matsutake mushrooms, persimmons, pears, and the fish called sanma. Each food has its own story. Chestnuts are taken out from the spiky shell. Sweet potatoes are dug up from the soil. Mushrooms are found under fallen leaves. Fruits are picked carefully from the trees. Fish are caught in the sea and later cooked on the table.

The beauty of autumn leaves is also special. As children, many of us enjoyed gathering fallen leaves. Sometimes we burned them, and inside the fire we placed sweet potatoes wrapped in foil. The taste of hot roasted sweet potato reminds us of autumn. Cleaning leaves may look like only simple work, but in Buddhism it has a deep meaning.

One of the Buddha's disciples was named Chudapanthaka (Japanese: Shuri-Handoku). He could not remember even one line of teaching and was often laughed at. The Buddha gave him only one short phrase: "Remove the dust, remove the dirt." Every day he cleaned the temple yard with a broom while repeating these words. At first, he thought only about removing dust outside. But slowly, he realized there is also "dust" inside his own mind: greed, anger, and confusion. With every sweep, he imagined he was cleaning his heart as well. By this practice, he reached awakening.

This lesson is for us too. Once in an elementary school, children were asked to draw a picture of a fish. Many of them drew not a swimming fish, but a fillet, just like what they see on the table. We often forget that our food was once a living being. Fish were swimming in the water. Plants were growing in the soil. All of them had life. We eat their life, and our own life continues.

Buddhism teaches interdependence. Farmers, workers, drivers, stores, the sun, rain, and soil, all support our food. We are never living alone. Every meal is a gift from many lives and many people.

That is why we say itadakimasu before eating. It is not only manners. It is gratitude to life itself. In the same way, daily cleaning is not only housework. It is also a way to clean our heart.

This autumn, let us enjoy the harvest foods. Let us clean the fallen leaves. And let us also clean the dust from our hearts. With gratitude, let us say itadakimasu, live in health, and walk together in harmony.

In Gassho,

Rev. Noritaka Imada

If you need to contact Rev. Imada, you can email him at: imadabca@gmail.com (916) 383-1831



Meet members of the church



Get ready for a “Guess Who?” quiz in the newsletter! This time, we’ll be using fun illustrations from our BWA activities—like making goat’s milk soap—and letting everyone guess who is in the picture.

We’re also starting a new section called “Travel Treasures.” If you travel somewhere, please send us a photo from your trip and we’ll feature it in the newsletter too!

imadabca@gmail.com



Last month's quiz answer



Which of the following is a national flower of Japan?

A. Cherry Blossom (Sakura) B. Chrysanthemum (Kiku) C. Plum Blossom (Ume) D. Lotus (Hasu)

Answer: Both A. Cherry Blossom (Sakura) and B. Chrysanthemum (Kiku) are the national flowers of Japan. Note: White chrysanthemums are often used at funerals.

The next quiz



Question: In Japan, what unusual item can you sometimes find in vending machines?

- A. Hot canned coffee
- B. Fresh eggs
- C. Umbrellas
- D. All of the above

October Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of October will be held on **Sunday, October 12, 2025 at 10:00 am**. The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of October are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card please bring it with you for placement on the onajin (altar) before the service. If the year 2025 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed loved one, please contact Reverend Noritaka Imada, Buddhist Church of Florin 916-383-1831 or email imadabca@gmail.com to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Eto, Kaoru	10-07-1940	Nishi, Tamiko	10-14-1934
Fujii, Allen Shigeru	10-22-2023	Nomura, Ichinosuke	10-29-1918
Furukawa, Shizu	10-20-1914	Oda, Tokutaro	10-07-1903
Hayashida, Yukio	10-05-1926	Ohmae, Shigeko	10-07-1918
Hirakawa, Junichi	10-05-1933	Ohta, Tsuneo	10-16-1990
Ishimaru, Gosaku	10-08-1921	Oku,	10-03-1911
Ishimoto, Tokutaro	10-31-1921	Oku, Toshi	10-06-1973
Ito, Yukiko Shirley	10-19-2023	Oku, Yoichi	10-03-1971
Kishimoto, Toraichi	10-11-1958	Ouchida, Soyo	10-31-1928
Kojima, Shigeru	10-29-1920	Sakai, Yoshinori	10-17-1944
Kono, Jane Michiko	10-08-2001	Sako, Tokichi	10-25-1956
Koyama, Chiyo	10-21-1917	Sato, Tsura	10-24-1943
Masuda, Kikujiro	10-14-1957	Sawada, Mitoko	10-27-1931
Matsui, Tsuru	10-31-1979	Sawai, Fujiko	10-31-1930
Minamide, Yataro	10-04-1939	Shimosaka, Robert Tadashi	10-17-1984
Miyaki,	10-26-1913	Takemori, Midori	10-14-2005
Miyata, Irene Tamayo	10-27-1992	Takeoka, Kumakichi	10-22-1960
Mizusaka, William Yutaka	10-03-2016	Tanaka, Fusaye	10-31-1999
Mori, Kojiro	10-07-1940	Tanaka, Sekiyo	10-09-1987
Mukai, Frank Tsukasa	10-24-1996	Tanaka, Shizuichi	10-08-1976
Mukai, Tom Tamotsu	10-08-1989	Tanigawa, Kogiku	10-27-1980
Mukai, Tomie	10-13-1923	Tanigawa, Shizuo	10-16-1921
Munekawa, Makoto Jim	10-13-2017	Tanigawa, Tamazo	10-16-1954
Nakagawa, Chotaro	10-23-1953	Yamanaka, Hachiro	10-26-1950
Nakahira, Sue Suzuko	10-29-2022	Yasukawa, Leo Isamu	10-11-2013
Nakashima,	10- -1915	Yoshinaga, Rin	10-15-19
Nakashima, Kiyoshi	10-10-1950		
Nishi, Charles Keishi	10-07-1970		

2025 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>
2024	1 st Year	2001	25 th Year
2023	3 rd Year	1993	33 rd Year
2019	7 th Year	1976	50 th Year
2013	13 th Year	1926	100 th Year
2009	17 th Year		

Please Join Us!

Sunday October 12, 2025 at 10:00 am
October Shotsukí Hoyo & Family Service

Sunday October 26, 2025 at 10:00 am
Family Service & Halloween Party

Officiant: Rev. Noritaka Imada

Halloween Party starts at 11:00 am.

Crafts, Trunk or Treat, Hayrides and more!!

Don't miss out on the Halloween Party!! Please let us know if you will be joining us by October 22, 2025 at nnouchi@att.net

Thank you!!

**** The front gates may be locked 15 minutes after the start of scheduled services and/or activities.**

In the event of a change, we will post the updates on our website at buddhistchurchofflorin.org; Facebook page and send out a message to our email list.



Buddhist Church of Florin
Governing Board Meeting Highlights
September 11, 2025

- Following the September 28 service a luncheon will be held to honor our Keiro members. Keep an eye out for more details.
- The Fall Food Bazaar was very successful, netting over \$10,000. Thank you to Jennifer Kubo for chairing the event. A huge thank you to the many volunteers who make it all happen!
- Check the temple website for updated information on BCF Organizations (BWA, Dharma School, Kendo, Kyudo Kai, etc.) and to find information about services, events, fundraisers and how to donate.
- See the **Events** tab regularly for activities at our temple, other local temples and community events, as well as BCA activities and announcements. There's a lot going on!
- The parking lot will be re-slurried and there will be some electrical upgrades happening in the near future.
- The Board is looking into options for making the hall/gym more temperature friendly.
- The Board is also looking into setting up a Red Cross CPR class. The training would be for both those who want to be trained and those who are ready to re-certify.
- The 2026 Master Calendar will be posted in the newsletter and on our website.
- Read your Wheel of Dharma for the latest BCA news.
- Please bookmark our temple website: BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org. Be sure you have the right website if you are doing a search in your browser. The home page should have the words "Official Website". **BEWARE, the old website no longer belongs to us and does not conduct legitimate business for the temple.**

Buddhist Church of Florin

Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant \$2,000

Public school education is the foundation for a harmonious and prosperous society. Unfortunately, public school teachers pay for classroom supplies and educational material with their own money because of school budget reductions. The Buddhist Church of Florin supports public school teachers by offering a monetary grant for classroom supplies, education materials and educational field trips.

To be eligible for the Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant, you must be a full-time public school teacher in Kindergarten through 12th grade; and a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current).

Contact Donna Kunisaki at florinbuddhist@gmail.com for a Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application. Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

How to become a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin? If you are married, please join under the couple/family category or if single, the adult single category. Contact Walter Menda at florinbuddhist@gmail.com for a Church Membership Form.



Buddhist Church of Florin

Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant
\$2,000

The Buddhist Church of Florin supports full time public-school teachers by offering a \$2,000 grant for classroom supplies, equipment, education materials, information technology and educational field trips. Part Time and Long-Term Substitute teachers can receive a prorated grant amount based on the percentage of the contract worked. To be eligible for the Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant, you must be a public-school teacher in Kindergarten through 12th grade; and a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current). Applications are being accepted on an ongoing basis.

Please complete the Public-School Teacher Grant Application below and email to Donna Kunisaki at dkunisaki@sbcglobal.net.

Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Public School Teacher Grant Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number and E-mail Address:

Member of Buddhist Church of Florin (Yes/No):

Name of School:

School District:

Grade:

School Term (i.e., August 2025 to June 2026):

Full Time Teacher (Yes/No):

Part Time Teacher (Yes/No):

If yes, percentage of contract you work during the school year _____.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher (Yes/No)

You must work more than 3 months to qualify as a Long-Term Substitute Teacher.

If yes, percentage of contract you work during the school year _____.

Teaching Credential (Yes/No):

How I plan to spend the \$2,000 grant amount or Prorated grant amount:

I certify that I have provided complete and accurate information to the items on this application. I fully understand that any misrepresentation of information may revoke any right to a grant.

Signature of Applicant

Date



Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School
 News & Events- October 2025
 "B.R.A.I.D." – Building Respectful Awareness

.Itadakimasu

To be connected to one another is much easier nowadays with FaceTime and Zoom and even emails and texts as well. However, being behind these screens can make us forget that there are more people out there on the other side of the digital world. Sunday's service served as a reminder to all that no matter how isolated one might be, one still has a connection to countless other people. With the food we consume, especially, it requires potentially tens of hundreds of hands to bring that sustenance from the farms to our forks. It brings to mind the true meaning of "itadakimasu," the phrase said before a meal. Literally translated, it means to receive a gift from someone of higher status. It is used as a way to show respect and humble oneself, quite appropriate taken into account the sheer dependence that we have for those who work hard to place food on our tables.

-Skylar Lam

Upcoming Dharma Lesson/Activities

Oct. 26, 2025

Halloween Party 11:00am-1:00pm

Basketball Instructional Clinic (ages 4-8 years old) 1:00-2:30pm

Fall 2025
 Science Museum

Field trip to Buddhist Church of Lodi and

November and December Game Day and mini Undokai



A Halloween-themed poster with a large, glowing full moon in the center. The text "YOU ARE INVITED TO A HALLOWEEN PARTY" is written across the moon in a dripping, blood-like font. Below the moon, there are silhouettes of three bats flying, a house with lit windows, and a bare tree with a swing hanging from it. The background is a solid orange color. At the bottom, there is a black banner with white and orange text providing the date, time, location, and RSVP information.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A
HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

OCT 26
11AM TO 1PM

[7235 Pritchard Rd. Sacramento 95828]
[Costume contest, ghoulish crafts, haywire hayrides, and
frightening food! Feel free to bring a salad or dessert for the
potluck.] RSVP to [Nadine Nouchi] at [nnouchi@att.net] by
Oct,19th



SAVE THE DATES!

Basketball Clinic

Ages 4 to 8 years old

Bring your kids out for 1.5 hours to learn basic skills of basketball. No experience needed. Bring a water bottle, dress appropriately, and wear appropriate shoes.

Sunday, August 24th: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Sunday, September 14th: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Sunday, September 28th: after service (11:00 AM to 12:30 PM)

Sunday, October 26th: after the Halloween get together (1:00 PM to 2:30 PM)

For more information, please contact Kimiko Yamamoto Hayashida (kimikoyamamoto11@yahoo.com)





**Garlic Bacon
Avocado Somen**

Children especially enjoyed catching and eating the somen noodles flowing down the bamboo flume. For adults, a new recipe was introduced: garlic, bacon, and avocado somen, garnished with lemon and shiso leaves.

The true joy lies not in eating by oneself, but in sharing the noodles little by little as they flow by. This spirit of togetherness is one of the greatest charms of nagashi somen. It means to care for others, not only myself. This small practice warms the hearts of those around us and slowly changes the world.



LOTUS Helps With Cooking Class Activity



Part 1 of Rev. Imada's September cooking class included Nagashi Somen (Flowing Somen) where somen noodles flow down a bamboo flume & participants normally catch with their hashi (chop sticks). Our LOTUS members helped to construct the bamboo flume with Greg chopping down and cutting the bamboo to size and Darrell & others smoothing the bamboo interior. Rev. Imada assembled. Dharma School children tested the contraption with their forks (in place of hashi) & scooped into cups.



SECOND TIME AROUND

LOTUS guys again pruning the neighbor's overgrown trees encroaching on the church grounds. [Once earlier this summer & again at the end of summer.]



JoAnn Kusaka

Head food preparer

Sharon Okamoto

Provides weekly desserts

Ken Okabayashi

Takemori watermelon

Ann Tsukamoto

Mexican casserole

Darrell Matsuda

2 cases of bottled water



Oct. '25 BWA Dana Project

Run for a Safe Haven

 My Sister's House

William Land Park, Sacramento

October 25, 2025

**Oct. 25
2025**

Buddhist Church of Florin
BWA

DONATE or JOIN THE WALK for the 22nd annual Run for a Safe Haven. Your support helps with My Sister's House mission to eliminate domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in our region.

BWA September Activity

Handcrafted Goat Milk Skincare

Naturally Luxurious and Nourishing.
Lovingly made in Small Batches in Lincoln, California.





JOIN OUR

JAPANESE STUDY CLASS

Every 4th Thursday
7PM - 8PM
at Buddhist Church of Florin

Buddhist Church of Florin



Prime Rib, Gravy, Rice, Veggies

Pick up orders

- Buddhist Church of Florin 7235 Pritchard Road, Sacramento 95828
- Check-in between 3-5PM - your dinner will be delivered to your car.

ORDER one of the following ways...

- 1) **ONLINE** at buddhistchurchofflorin.org -or- scan this link:



Scan me!

- 2) **VENMO**: @Elizabeth-Fujii-3 (\$47 each order; note requests for any 'end cuts')

3) **OLD SCHOOL**:

- Complete **ORDER FORM** below
- Make out **CHECK** to **Buddhist Church of Florin** (*Checks will be deposited **after** the event)
- **MAIL ORDER FORM & CHECK** (or drop off NO LATER THAN October 24, 2025) to:
E FUJII, 325 34TH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95816 **do not mail payment to the church.*

YOUR NAME?		TOTAL DUE:
HOW MANY ORDERS?	_____ X \$47.00 EACH	
YOUR PHONE NUMBER in case we need to contact you?		
We will make every effort to accommodate requests for 'end cuts'. Let us know how many of above orders are END CUTS : _____		
(No other special requests).		

Need more information? Contact E Fujii (916) 955 1954 or email efujii52@gmail.com

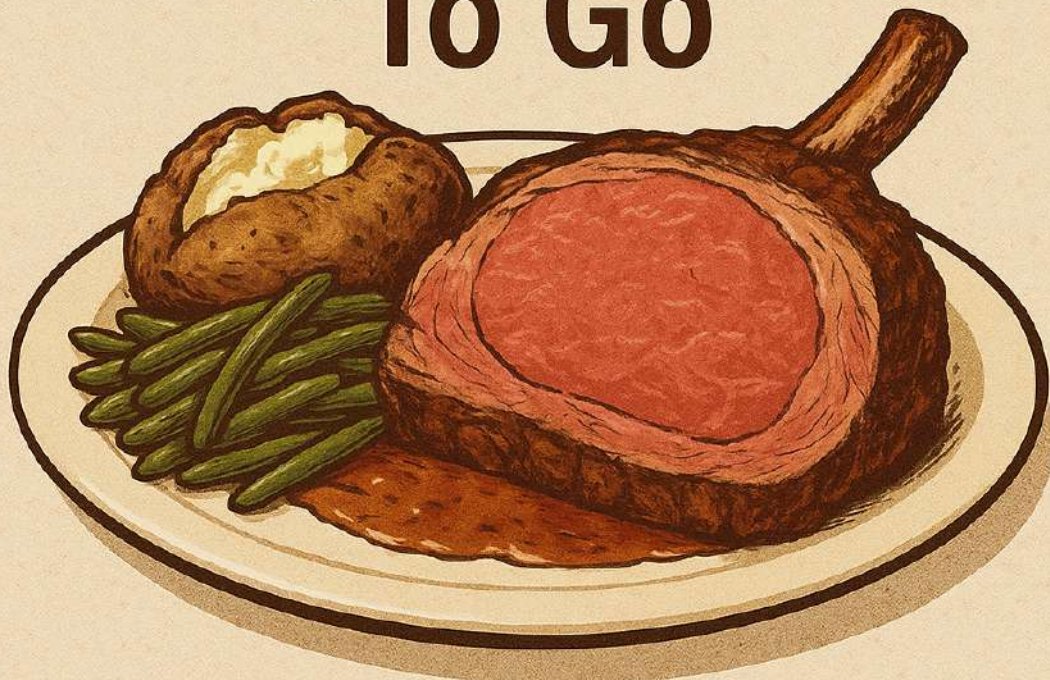
Saturday November 1st, 2025
Pick-Up Order Between 3-5PM

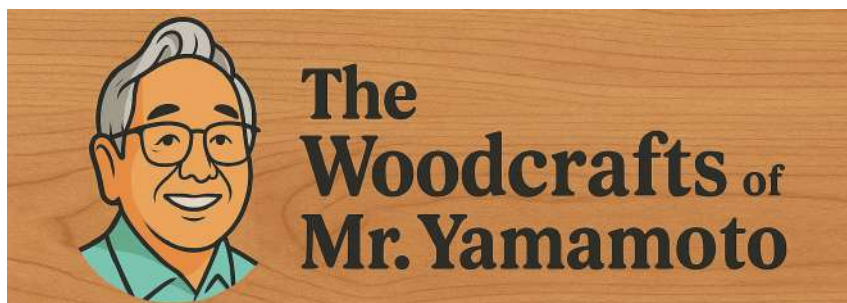
SAVE THE DATE!

November 1, 2025

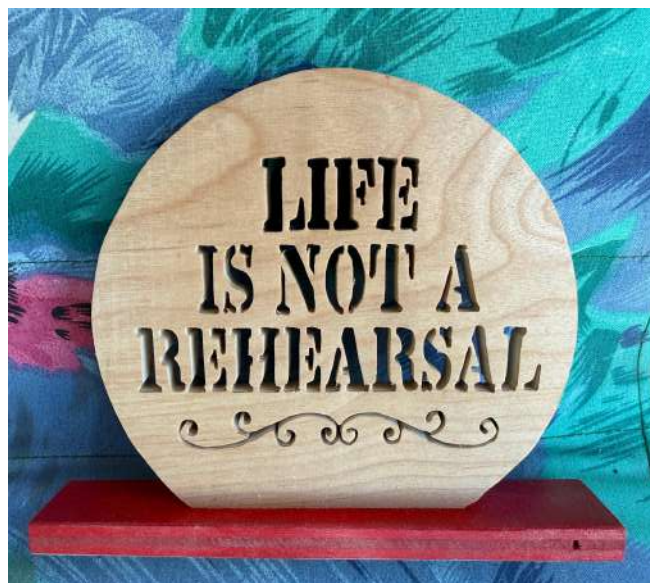
PRIME RIB DINNER

“To Go”





Life is not a rehearsal.



I had the honor of visiting Mr. Mits Yamamoto's home and seeing many of his wonderful works. Here is one I would like to share.

On a wooden plaque, the words are carved: "LIFE IS NOT A REHEARSAL."

In Buddhism, there is a teaching called "one day, one life." If our whole life were only one day, then today would be everything. This perspective reminds us to treasure each moment as precious and unrepeatable.

There is also a Shinran Shonin's words that expresses this truth:

"Thinking there will be tomorrow, you gaze at the cherry blossoms, but what if a storm blows in the night, scattering them away?"

If we take it for granted that tomorrow will come, we may lose the chance to live today fully. Just as the blossoms may vanish overnight, so too our life can change or end without warning. That is why each day is so important, and why we are called to live sincerely in the present moment.

This artwork conveys that truth in a simple yet powerful way.

Florin 2025 Fall Class

-----Kamigamo Style - Mataro Kimekomi Dolls-----

***** Wasano Class – Florin Buddhist Church *****

Revised dates 2025 Fall - Class Schedule**

Class 1, **September 21, 2025 (Sunday)**

Class 2, October 18, 2025

Class 3, **November 15, 2025**

Class 4, December 20, 2025

Class 5, **January 17, 2026**

***** Trip op Japan is scheduled from October 25 to November 10, 2025*****.

Please indicate which class you want to register: **AM 9:00am - 12:00pm**
PM 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

----- Class dates are subject to be changed due to Florin Buddhist Temple activities. -----

With **Location:** Florin Buddhis Church
7235 Prichard Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95828

Registration Fee:** 15 hours AM session **\$60.00 non-Florin Church member**
15 hours AM session **\$50.00 Florin Church member**
AM & PM Sessions **\$100.00 Non-Church member**
AM & PM Sessions **\$80.00 Florin Church member**

****Cost of lab fee (doll kits/tools) collected at each purchase**

For further information, please contact: Ms. Masanori (Isako) Wasano: (408) 203-1305
email: nocalmataromiyabikai@gmail.com

----- DETACH AND RETURN WITH REGISTRATION FEE-----

Florin-Saturday Mataro Kimekomi Doll Class Registration (September 21, 2025 – January 17, 2026)

A. Send registration form and fee to: _____ Date: _____
Isako Wasano
P.O. Box 28
Rescue, CA 95762-9998

----- Please remit check payable to Isako Wasano -----

B. **Your Name:** _____ AM Class () PM Class ()

a. Address: _____

b. Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

c. Method of Payment: Check # _____ \$ _____ Cash \$ _____

*All class registers consider to contribute to Florin BWA who sponsors our Kimekomi Doll Classes. The annual due \$12.00 payable to "**Buddhist Church of Florin - BWA**" for 2026.*

Method of Payment: Check # _____ \$12.00 Cash \$12.00

Wasano Class – Florin Buddhist Church
In formation on this registration is strictly used for Wasano Class record and communication purpose.

Buddhist Church of Florin
7235 Pritchard Road
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 292006
Sacramento, CA 95829-2006
Phone: 916-383-1831
Website: www.buddhistchurchofflorin.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 332
Sacramento, CA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IN THIS ISSUE:

REV. IMADA'S MESSAGE	1-3
SHOTSUKI/2025 MEMORIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE	4
MONTHLY SERVICES	5
BOARD HIGHLIGHTS	6
BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN TEACHER GRANT INFORMATION AND THE APPLICATION	7-8
DHARMA SCHOOL	9-12
LOTUS CLUB	13
BWA	14
SENSEI'S JAPANESE CLASS	15
PRIME RIB DINNER	16-17
THE WOODCRAFTS OF MR. YAMAMOTO	18
2025 FALL KIMEKOMI CLASS REGISTRATION	19
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER CALENDARS	20-21